

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
INFO CINCPAC
COGARD
TREASURY
GOV GUAM

UNCLAS STATE 138485

ATTN PARIS FOR MARK PRATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, XC, US

SUBJECT: JUNE 15 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. CHINA

ADDRESSING 2,000 PEOPLE FRIDAY AT FRANKFURT AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT, GEN STARRY, NEWLY-APPOINTED COMMANDER OF ARMY'S TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND (FORT MONROE, VA), PREDICTED "IN YOUR LIFETIME" THERE PROBABLY WILL BE MAJOR SINO-SOVIET WAR--AND ALSO LIKELY US WILL BECOME INVOLVED "ONCE IT BECAME APPARENT" ONE OF ANTAGONISTS WOULD WIN
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"AND GAIN ABSOLUTE CONTROL OVER THE BULK OF THE EURASIAN LAND MASS" (UPI, NYT).

PRC CARRIED WAR OF WORDS WITH SOVIET TO "PD" FRONT-PAGE BOX TUES, WITH ANTI-MOSCOW QUOTATION FROM CHAIRMAN HUA. BENEATH WAS LONG ARTICLE WRITTEN BY THEORETICAL GROUP IN CHARGE OF EDITING MARX/ENGELS/LENIN/STALIN WORKS, ASSAILING SOVIET FOR "LAUNCHING VICIOUS ATTACKS AGAINST OUR PARTY AND OUR COUNTRY" (REUTER PEKING 6/14).

WP'S REID REPORTS THAT AT TUES HIO SUBCMTE HEARINGS ON ROC, DOS'S BURT LEVIN GAVE GENERALLY FAVORABLE VIEW OF PERSONAL FREEDOM ON ISLAND, CALLING IT "SOCIETY IN TRANSITION" IN

WHICH RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IS GRADUALLY INCREASING." LEVIN ADDED THAT WHILE TORTURE/HARASSMENT REPORTS PERSIST, "THEY HAVE BEEN LESS FREQUENT IN RECENT YEARS." BUT SUB-CMTE LATER HEARD CHARGES OF GROC HARASSMENT FROM CHANG CHING-TSE, EDITOR OF NOW-DEFUNCT TAIWANESE POL JOURNAL, AND WU MING-HUI, COUNTY OFFICIAL WHO HAD BUCKED KMT PARTY.

ACCORDING REID, SUBCMTE MEMBERS HAD TROUBLE FOLLOWING MUCH OF TESTIMONY, BECAUSE SEVERAL WITNESSES SPOKE IN TAIWANESE, THERE WAS DIFFICULTY FINDING INTELLIGIBLE INTERPRETER/ AUDIENCE OFTEN DROWNED OUT TRANSLATIONS WITH LAUGHTER/ MOANING/APPLAUSE. WHEN SUBCMTE RECESSED FOR HOUSE VOTE, SOME IN AUDIENCE ENGAGED IN HEATED ARGUMENT THAT LED TO FISTICUFFS.

2. JAPAN

US IMPORTS COLOR TVS--MOSTLY FROM JAPAN--UP 55 PCT IN 1ST 3 MONTHS '77 OVER 1ST QUARTER '76. AUDIO/VIDEO PRODUCTS IMPORTS FOR SAME PERIOD ROSE 32 PCT OVER LAST YR (UPI, NYT; AP, NYDN). JAPANESE SHARE 605,000 TVS IMPORTED TOTALLED 533,848 UNITS. (REUTER 6/14).
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MAJOR JAPANESE SHIPBUILDERS LOST OUT TO SK/YUGOSLAVIA IN BIDDING FOR 333-MIL-DOL CONTRACT TO BUILD 10 FREIGHTERS FOR NIGERIA (UPI, JOC).

JAPANESE AUTO MFRS REPORT MIXED PRODUCTION/EXPORT PERFORMANCE IN MAY, BUT TOYOTA/DATSUN/MAZDA ALL SHOWED MODERATE PRODUCTION INCREASES OVER LAST YR (WSJ).

US/JAPAN AGREE SEEK TECHNICAL FORMULA ON NUKE FUEL IN ORDER AVOID MAJOR POL CLASH. US DEL NUKE EXPORTS TO FLY TOKYO EARLY NEXT WK FOR JOINT TALKS ON FORMULA TO RESOLVE ISSUE. SEVERAL FEASIBLE SYSTEMS AVAILABLE WHICH DO NOT YIELD PURE PLUTONIUM; JAPANESE EXEPECTED ACCEPT ONE OF THEM (GWERTZMAN, NYT; EXERPTED IN SUN).

3. JAPAN/KOREA

AT TOKYO PRESS CONF 6/15, MANSFIELD ENDORSED US TROOP W/DRAWAL FROM SK/SAID HE EXPECTED FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN NUMBER US MIL BASES IN JAPAN. AMB EXPECTED US-JAPAN SECURITY CONSULTATIVE CMTE WOULD GIVE ISSUE CLOSEST ATTENTION, "AND THAT IN TIME THERE WOULD BE CONTINUAL"/ FURTHER REDUCTIONS. ALSO STATED 25 YRS "LONG ENOUGH" FOR TROOPS REMAIN/SK SHOULD UNDERTAKE GREATER DEGREE

RESPONSIBILITY IN SELF-DEFENSE;

4; KOREA

SNEIDER/FONMIN PARK TONG JING HEADED DELS IN 1ST WORKING-LEVEL MTG 6/14 ON US TROOP W/DRAWAL. NEITHER SIDE ISSUED STATEMENT, BUT SK PAPERS REPORTED TALKS COVERED PRELIM STEPS FOR DISCUSSION COMPENSATORY MEASURES PRES PARK SEEKS (NYT).

MAJOR PAPERS CARRY ITEM RE LA GOV EDWARDS CLOSED SESSION UNCLASSIFIED

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TESTIMONY 6/14 BEFORE HOUSE ETHICS CMTE ON KOREAN INFLUENCE-BUYING. EDWARDS TOLD PANEL HIS WIFE ACCEPTED 10,000 DOLS FROM TONGSUN PARK AFTER EDWARDS REFUSED IT, BUT CONTENTED "GIFT" NOT IMPROPER. ALSO SAID HE HAD NO REASON BELIEVE PARK WAS ROKG AGENT, THO TOLD REPORTERS AFTERWARDS, "I DON'T KNOW...HE MAY HAVE BEEN" (HALLORAN, NYT; AP SUN, PHINQ; NYDN). REUTER'S DE SILVA (6/14) ADDS CMTE SOURCES SAY PANEL HAS SUBPOENAED DOCUMENTS FROM NY SUBSIDIARIES JAPAN LINES/INDUSTRIAL BANK OF JAPAN IN CONNECTION W/PROBE; NO DETAILS GIVEN.

GUIDRY (WSTAR 6/14) CITES "NUMBER OF ACCOUNTS" BROWN/HABIB TESTIMONY BEFORE HIRC LAST WK WHICH INDICATE US TACTICAL NUKES WILL BE W/DRAWN ALONG W/GROUND TROOPS OVER NEXT 4-5 YRS. REP ZABLOCKI (D-WIS) ACKNOWLEDGED NUKE WEAPONS QUESTION RAISED AT CLOSED-DOOR SESSION, BUT DECLINED ELABORATE.

HELPED BY INCREASED FOREX RESERVES, ROKG ANNOUNCED 6/14 STEPS TO REMOVE/EASE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON 377 COMMODITY ITEMS (AP, WSJ). BANK LOAN INTEREST RATES WILL ALSO BE LOWERED TWICE THIS YR TO CURB ANY INFLATION RESULTING FROM NEW TAX SYSTEM (UPI, JOC).

SK'S HYUNDAI CO WINS 185-MIL-DOL CONTRACT TO PROVIDE ELECTRIC POWER TO HUNDREDS RURAL VILLAGES IN SAUDI ARABIA (AP, WSJ).

5. AUSTRALIA/SAMOA

DEP OPPOSITION LEADER UREN, IN SYDNEY SPEECH TO COLLEGE STUDENTS 6/15, SAID LABOUR PARTY ALMOST CERTAIN AT NEXT MTG ADOPT POLICY DELAYING URANIUM DEVELOPMENT. WARNED MINING FIRMS THEY RISK LOSING INVESTMENTS IF THEY PROCEED W/PLANS RECOVER AUSTRALIAN URANIUM. DEP PM ANTHONY REPEATED 6/14 BELIEF THAT AUSTRALIA HAS UNCLASSIFIED

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MORAL OBLIGATION MINE URANIUM (REUTER SYDNEY).

ANTHROPOLOGIST MARGARET MEAD TOLD FEDRL JUDGE 6/13
US SHOULD NOT IMPOSE ANGLO-SAXON JURISPRUDENCE ON AMER

SAMOA, BUT SHOULD LEAVE ISLANDS TO NATIVE CULTURE.
ADDED US' BUSINESS "PROTECT," NOT CHANGE CULTURE (HOUSE,
WSTAR 6/14).

6. TRADE POLICY

TAIWAN AGREES HOLD DOWN SHIPMENT CHEAP SHOES TO US; SHOE
SHIPMENTS TO BE CUT FROM 1976 LEVEL OF 156 MILLION PRS TO
122 MILLION PRS IN YR ENDING 6/30/78, THEN RISE TO 131
MILLION PRS BY AGREEMENT'S END IN 1981 (AP, SUN; WP;
WOOTEN, NYT; PATTERSON, GLOBE; EPSTEIN, PHINQ). EPSTEIN
REPORTS SIMILAR US AGREEMENT REACHED WITH SK.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

7. KOREA

MORITZ (CSM), AT SEOUL, WONDERS IF ROKG WILL GO FOR NUKE
ARMS TO HELP COMPENSATE FOR US GROUND FORCES' PULLOUT.
SAYS QUESTION DRAWS INCREASED ATTN IN SK/JAPAN, THO SK
OFFICIAL POSITION IS IT HAS NO PRESENT PLANS FOR NUKE
ARMAMENT AND COUNTRY LACKS FINANCIAL RESERVES/TRAINED
MANPOWER/TECHNOLOGY TO EMBARK ON FULL-SCALE NUKE WEAPONS
RESEARCH PROGRAM.

MORITZ MENTIONS 2 POSSIBLE WAYS NUKE WEAPONS COULD BE
BUILT: GETTING ACCESS TO HIJACKED PLUTONIUM; REPROCESSING
NUKE POWER-PLANT FUEL. ADDS LATTER LIKELY DRAW STRONG
OPPOSITION IN SK, SINCE US/CANADIAN NUKE/OTHER ASSISTANCE
COULD BE CUT OFF, DAMAGING SUCCESSFUL ECONOMY ON WHICH
PARK'S CLAIM TO POWER RESTS HEAVILY.
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GROUP CHURCHES CALLED "KOREAN CHRISTIAN AD-HOC CMTE" PLACES
1/2-PG AD IN WP (6/14) EXPLAINING VIEWPOINT OPPOSING W/
DRAWAL US GROUND FORCES FROM SK.

CHI S-T (6/11) BELIEVES PRES CARTER RIGHT TO IGNORE FOR
NOW DEMANDS THAT SPECIAL PROSECUTOR LOOK INTO KOREAN
INFLUENCE SCANDAL. STATES NEEDED INVESTIGATION SEEMS
TAKING PLACE; OPINES SPECIAL PROSECUTOR UNNECESSARY UNLESS
PRESENT INQUIRIES PROVE INADEQUATE. ADDS PRES BEING WISE
ECONOMICALLY/MILITARILY IN PROCEEDING W/PHASED PULLOUT
FROM SK; THINKS STEP SHOULD HELP REDUCE KOREAN BRIBES
SEEKING INFLUENCE US POLICY. CHRISTOPHER

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